

STATE-TO-STATE BINATIONAL RECOGNITION

An evaluation committee of U.S. and Mexico federal and state environmental agency representatives score the nominations. Awards are presented at the annual fall meeting of the Arizona-Mexico Commission (AMC) and the Comisión Sonora-Arizona (CSA). The commissions are binational organizations managed by the governor's office of each respective state.



The most notable distinction in gaining recognition through the AMIGO Program is that the awards are personally presented to the honorees by the governors of Arizona and Sonora. This distinction is unique to the state-to-state relationship between the governments of Sonora and Arizona.

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HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

For additional information on AMIGO or to obtain a membership form, please contact the ADEQ Southern Regional Office.

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You may also contact the ADEQ Pollution Prevention Unit at (602) 207-4235 or, toll free in Arizona, (800) 234-5677, Ext. 4235, for further information on specific pollution prevention topics.



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AMIGO PROGRAM



***A Pollution Prevention
Partnership for the
Arizona-Mexico Border***

WHAT IS THE AMIGO PROGRAM?

The Arizona-Mexico International Green Organization (AMIGO) is a binational pollution prevention initiative sponsored by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

The program is designed to foster partnerships leading to voluntary pollution prevention activities among industries located in the Arizona-Sonora border region. Governments on both sides of the border serve as industry-to-industry matchmakers in a nonregulatory role to promote international private sector collaboration.

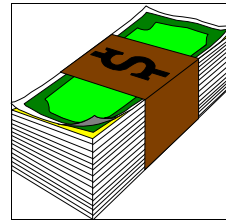


AMIGO focuses on bringing Arizona companies and Sonoran maquiladoras, foreign-owned Mexican manufacturing facilities, together to share information and technologies to reduce waste and pollution while increasing profits, protecting worker safety and improving environmental health. Your company can obtain major benefits by participating in a pollution prevention program.

HOW CAN MY COMPANY BENEFIT?

Pollution prevention programs can reduce operating costs in many ways. Through a pollution prevention assessment, your company can find options for increasing efficiencies in a wide range of areas – from raw materials use, to less bulky packaging, to more efficient energy use. AMIGO can assist your company in promoting and implementing pollution prevention by providing a forum for networking and the exchange of technological expertise and information.

Pollution prevention can not only reduce operating costs, but also decrease your regulatory burden and help protect human health and the environment by instituting techniques that reduce the amount of wastes your company generates.



Becoming an AMIGO partner only takes three easy steps: 1) complete a membership form, 2) get ready to learn and share your knowledge about pollution prevention, and 3) assess opportunities to improve your company's bottom line.



ARE THERE OTHER INCENTIVES?

Once a member, your company will have the opportunity to network with other companies that have reaped economic and environmental benefits by employing practices that promote pollution prevention.

Membership also offers you the opportunity to participate in the recognition component of the program.

The AMIGO Awards were established to recognize partners in the organization who demonstrate leadership in implementing and supporting the goals of



pollution prevention to reduce the amount and toxicity of hazardous wastes and the use of toxic substances in the Arizona-Sonora border region. The two award categories are process improvements and pollution prevention promotion. The five evaluation criteria are environmental benefits, economic benefits, employee and community involvement, management commitment, and pollution prevention hierarchy.